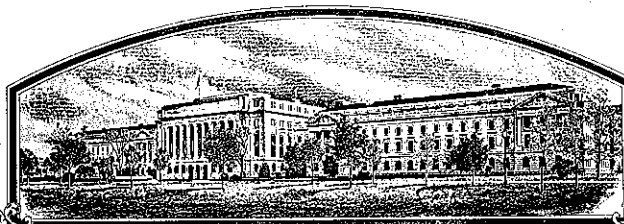


No.



9500149

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

JFR Cooperative

Whereas, THERE HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE

Secretary of Agriculture

AN APPLICATION REQUESTING A CERTIFICATE OF PROTECTION FOR AN ALLEGED DISTINCT VARIETY OF SEXUALLY REPRODUCED, OR TUBER PROPAGATED, PLANT, THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN THE APPLICATION AND EXHIBITS, A COPY OF WHICH IS HEREUNTO ANNEXED AND MADE A PART HEREOF, AND THE VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS OF LAW IN SUCH CASES MADE AND PROVIDED HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH, AND THE TITLE THERETO IS, FROM THE RECORDS OF THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE, IN THE APPLICANT(S) INDICATED IN THE SAID COPY, AND WHEREAS, UPON DUE EXAMINATION MADE, THE SAID APPLICANT(S) IS (ARE) ADJUDGED TO BE ENTITLED TO A CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IS TO GRANT UNTO THE SAID APPLICANT(S) AND THE SUCCESSORS, HEIRS OR ASSIGNS OF THE SAID APPLICANT(S) FOR THE TERM OF TWENTY YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THIS GRANT, SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED FEES AND PERIODIC REPLENISHMENT OF VIABLE BASIC SEED OF THE VARIETY IN A PUBLIC REPOSITORY AS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE RIGHT TO EXCLUDE OTHERS FROM SELLING THE VARIETY, OR OFFERING IT FOR SALE, OR REPRODUCING IT, OR IMPORTING IT, OR EXPORTING IT, OR CONDITIONING IT FOR PROPAGATION, OR STOCKING IT FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE PURPOSES, OR USING IT IN PRODUCING A BRID OR DIFFERENT VARIETY THEREFROM, TO THE EXTENT PROVIDED BY THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION

(84 STAT. 1542, AS AMENDED, 7 U.S.C. 2321 ET SEQ.)

SOYBEAN

'FFR 553'

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Plant Variety Protection Office to be affixed at the City of Washington, D.C. this thirtieth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven.

Attest:

Marsha G. [Signature]
Commissioner
Plant Variety Protection Office
Agricultural Marketing Service

Jan F. [Signature]
Secretary of Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
SCIENCE DIVISION - PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE

The following statements are made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a).

Application is required in order to determine if a plant variety protection certificate is to be issued (7 U.S.C. 2421). Information is held confidential until certificate is issued (7 U.S.C. 2426).

APPLICATION FOR PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION CERTIFICATE

(Instructions and information collection burden statement on reverse)

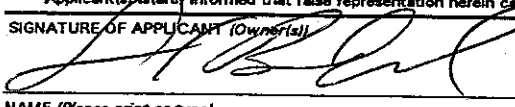
1. NAME OF APPLICANT(S) (as it is to appear on the Certificate) FFR Cooperative		2. TEMPORARY DESIGNATION OR EXPERIMENTAL NUMBER 39389	3. VARIETY NAME FFR 553
4. ADDRESS (Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and ZIP Code, and Country) 4112 East State Road 225 West Lafayette, IN 47906		5. TELEPHONE (include area code) 317/567-2115	FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY PVPO NUMBER 9500149 DATE April 28, 1995 FILING AND EXAMINATION FEE 2325.00 / 125.00 DATE 4/24/95 / 5/15/95 CERTIFICATION FEE 300.00 DATE 06/10/97
		6. FAX (include area code) 317/567-4046	
7. GENUS AND SPECIES NAME Glycine max	8. FAMILY NAME (Botanical) Leguminosae		
9. CROP KIND NAME (Common name) Soybean			
10. IF THE APPLICANT NAMED IS NOT A "PERSON", GIVE FORM OF ORGANIZATION (corporation, partnership, association, etc.) (Common name) Corporation			
11. IF INCORPORATED, GIVE STATE OF INCORPORATION Wisconsin		12. DATE OF INCORPORATION 1960	
13. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVE(S), IF ANY, TO SERVE IN THIS APPLICATION AND RECEIVE ALL PAPERS Lloyd McCall FFR Cooperative Route 1, Box 78 Bells, TN 38006			14. TELEPHONE (include area code) 901/668-2711
			15. FAX (include area code) 901/664-8474
16. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX FOR EACH ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED (Follow instructions on reverse)			
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibit A. Origin and Breeding History of the Variety b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibit B. Statement of Distinctness c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibit C. Objective Description of the Variety d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibit D. Additional Description of the Variety e. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibit E. Statement of the Basis of the Applicant's Ownership f. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voucher Sample (2,500 viable untreated seeds or, for tuber propagated varieties verification that tissue culture will be deposited and maintained in a public repository) g. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Filing and Examination Fee (\$2,450), made payable to "Treasurer of the United States" (Mail to PVPO)			
17. DOES THE APPLICANT SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE SOLD BY VARIETY NAME ONLY, AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED SEED? (See Section 83(a) of the Plant Variety Protection Act) <input type="checkbox"/> YES (If "yes," answer items 18 and 19 below) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO (If "no," go to item 20)			
18. DOES THE APPLICANT SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE LIMITED AS TO NUMBER OF GENERATIONS? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		19. IF "YES" TO ITEM 18, WHICH CLASSES OF PRODUCTION BEYOND BREEDER SEED? <input type="checkbox"/> FOUNDATION <input type="checkbox"/> REGISTERED <input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFIED	
20. HAS THE VARIETY OR A HYBRID PRODUCED FROM THE VARIETY BEEN RELEASED, USED, OFFERED FOR SALE, OR MARKETED IN THE U.S. OR OTHER COUNTRIES? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES (If "yes," give names of countries and dates) <input type="checkbox"/> NO Offered for sale in the United States during May, 1994			
21. The applicant(s) declare that a viable sample of basic seed of the variety will be furnished with application and will be replenished upon request in accordance with such regulations as may be applicable, or for a tuber propagated variety a tissue culture will be deposited in a public repository and maintained for the duration of the certificate. The undersigned applicant(s) is(are) the owner(s) of this sexually reproduced or tuber propagated plant variety, and believe(s) that the variety is new, distinct, uniform, and stable as required in Section 41, and is entitled to protection under the provisions of Section 42 of the Plant Variety Protection Act. Applicant(s) is(are) informed that false representation herein can jeopardize protection and result in penalties.			
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Owner(s)) 		SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (Owner(s))	
NAME (Please print or type) Steve J. Baluch		NAME (Please print or type)	
CAPACITY OR TITLE President	DATE 5/9/95	CAPACITY OR TITLE	DATE

Exhibit A. Origin and Breeding History of the Variety

Pedigree: A6381 x Pioneer Brand 5482

"FFR 553" was derived in 1987 as a single plant selection from the F4 generation of a cross that was made in 1985 near Jackson, TN. A modified single seed descent breeding method was used to advance the segregating generations. Seed from the F4 plant selection was grown during 1988 in a single row observation plot near Jackson, TN.

FFR 553, identified as experimental 39389, was first tested in a replicated yield trial in 1989 at three locations. In 1990, testing was expanded to four locations and a seed increase was initiated. The line was advanced to the elite trials in 1991. Elite testing and seed production continue to the present time.

FFR 553 appears stable and uniform from the 1988 plant row through the present during our testing and seed increase program. Flower, pubescence, and hilum color off-types have appeared at a frequency of up to 1% in the past. The variety is essentially free of contaminants at the present time.

Exhibit B. Novelty Statement

"FFR 553" is most similar to "FFR 561"; however, the varieties differ in the following characteristics:

<u>TRAIT</u>	<u>VARIETY</u>	
	<u>FFR 553</u>	<u>FFR 561</u>
Days to Maturity	131	134
Lodging score	1.5	1.8
Plant height (cm)	77	88
Leaflet width (cm)	7.2	7.5
Leaflet length (cm)	12.3	12.7
G/100 seed	14.1	13.2
Pubescence Color	Brown	Gray
Flower Color	Purple	White

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
LIVESTOCK, MEAT, GRAIN & SEED DIVISION
PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20705

EXHIBIT C
(Soybean)

OBJECTIVE DESCRIPTION OF VARIETY
SOYBEAN (*Glycine max* L.)

NAME OF APPLICANT(S) FFR Cooperative	TEMPORARY DESIGNATION 39389	VARIETY NAME FFR 553
ADDRESS (Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and Zip Code) 4112 East State Road 225 West Lafayette, IN 47906		FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY PVPO NUMBER 9500149

Choose the appropriate response which characterizes the variety in the features described below. When the number of significant digits in your answer is fewer than the number of boxes provided, place a zero in the first box when number is 9 or less (e.g.,). Starred characters ★ are considered fundamental to an adequate soybean variety description. Other characters should be described when information is available.

1. SEED SHAPE:



1 = Spherical (L/W, L/T, and T/W ratios = < 1.2)
3 = Elongate (L/T ratio > 1.2; T/W = < 1.2)

2 = Spherical Flattened (L/W ratio > 1.2; L/T ratio = < 1.2)
4 = Elongate Flattened (L/T ratio > 1.2; T/W > 1.2)

★ 2. SEED COAT COLOR: (Mature Seed)

1 = Yellow 2 = Green 3 = Brown 4 = Black 5 = Other (Specify) _____

3. SEED COAT LUSTER: (Mature Hand Shelled Seed)

1 = Dull ('Corsoy 79'; 'Braxton') 2 = Shiny ('Nebsoy'; 'Gasoy 17')

★ 4. SEED SIZE: (Mature Seed)

Grams per 100 seeds

★ 5. HILUM COLOR: (Mature Seed)

1 = Buff 2 = Yellow 3 = Brown 4 = Gray 5 = Imperfect Black 6 = Black 7 = Other (Specify) _____

★ 6. COTYLEDON COLOR: (Mature Seed)

1 = Yellow 2 = Green

★ 7. SEED PROTEIN PEROXIDASE ACTIVITY:

1 = Low 2 = High

★ 8. SEED PROTEIN ELECTROPHORETIC BAND:

1 = Type A (SP1^a) 2 = Type B (SP1^b)

★ 9. HYPOCOTYL COLOR:

1 = Green only ('Evans'; 'Davis') 2 = Green with bronze band below cotyledons ('Woodworth'; 'Tracy')
3 = Light Purple below cotyledons ('Beeson'; 'Pickett 71')
4 = Dark Purple extending to unifoliate leaves ('Hodgson'; 'Coker Hampton 266A')

★ 10. LEAFLET SHAPE:

1 = Lanceolate 2 = Oval 3 = Ovate 4 = Other (Specify) _____

11. LEAFLET SIZE:

☐ 21 = Small ('Amsoy 71'; 'A5312')
3 = Large ('Crawford'; 'Tracy')

2 = Medium ('Corsoy 79'; 'Gasoy 17')

12. LEAF COLOR:

☐ 21 = Light Green ('Weber'; 'York')
3 = Dark Green ('Gnome'; 'Tracy')

2 = Medium Green ('Corsoy 79'; 'Braxton')

★ 13. FLOWER COLOR:

☐ 2

1 = White

2 = Purple

3 = White with purple throat

★ 14. POD COLOR:

☐ 1

1 = Tan

2 = Brown

3 = Black

★ 15. PLANT PUBESCENCE COLOR:

☐ 2

1 = Gray

2 = Brown (Tawny)

16. PLANT TYPES:

☐ 21 = Slender ('Essex'; 'Amsoy 71')
3 = Bushy ('Gnome'; 'Govan')

2 = Intermediate ('Amcor'; 'Braxton')

★ 17. PLANT HABIT:

☐ 1

1 = Determinate ('Gnome'; 'Braxton')

2 = Semi-Determinate ('Will')

3 = Indeterminate ('Nebsoy'; 'Improved Pelican')

★ 18. MATURITY GROUP:

☐ 0 ☐ 8

1 = 000

2 = 00

3 = 0

4 = I

5 = II

6 = III

7 = IV

8 = V

9 = VI

10 = VII

11 = VIII

12 = IX

13 = X

★ 19. DISEASE REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

BACTERIAL DISEASES:

★

☐ 0Bacterial Pustule (*Xanthomonas phaseoli* var. *sojensis*)

★

☐ 0Bacterial Blight (*Pseudomonas glycinea*)

★

☐ 0Wildfire (*Pseudomonas tabaci*)

FUNGAL DISEASES:

★

☐ 0Brown Spot (*Septoria glycines*)Frogeye Leaf Spot (*Cercospora sojina*)

★

☐

Race 1

☐

Race 2

☐

Race 3

☐

Race 4

☐

Race 5

☐ 2Other (Specify) unknown races
field screens☐ 0Target Spot (*Corynespora cassicola*)☐ 0Downy Mildew (*Peronospora trifoliorum* var. *manshurica*)☐ 0Powdery Mildew (*Microsphaera diffusa*)

★

☐ 0Brown Stem Rot (*Cephalosporium gregatum*)☐ 2Stem Canker (*Diaporthe phaseolorum* var. *caulivora*)

19. DISEASE REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant) (Continued)

FUNGAL DISEASES: (Continued)

- ★ ☐ 0 Pod and Stem Blight (*Diaporthe phaseolorum* var. *sojae*)
- ☐ 0 Purple Seed Stain (*Cercospora kikuchii*)
- ☐ 0 Rhizoctonia Root Rot (*Rhizoctonia solani*)
- Phytophthora Rot (*Phytophthora megasperma* var. *sojae*)
- ★ ☐ 0 Race 1 ☐ 2 Race 2 ☐ 0 Race 3 ☐ 1 Race 4 ☐ 0 Race 5 ☐ 0 Race 6 ☐ 2 Race 7
- ☐ 0 Race 8 ☐ 0 Race 9 ☐ Other (Specify) _____

VIRAL DISEASES:

- ☐ 0 Bud Blight (Tobacco Ringspot Virus)
- ☐ 0 Yellow Mosaic (Bean Yellow Mosaic Virus)
- ★ ☐ 0 Cowpea Mosaic (Cowpea Chlorotic Virus)
- ☐ 0 Pod Mottle (Bean Pod Mottle Virus)
- ★ ☐ 0 Seed Mottle (Soybean Mosaic Virus)

NEMATODE DISEASES:

- Soybean Cyst Nematode (*Heterodera glycines*)
- ★ ☐ 0 Race 1 ☐ 0 Race 2 ☐ 1 Race 3 ☐ 1 Race 4 ¹⁴ ☐ 1 Other (Specify) Race 5
- ☐ 0 Lance Nematode (*Hoplaimus Colombus*)
- ★ ☐ 0 Southern Root Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne incognita*)
- ★ ☐ 0 Northern Root Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne Hapla*)
- ☐ 0 Peanut Root Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne arenaria*)
- ☐ 0 Reniform Nematode (*Rotylenchulus reniformis*)
- ☐ OTHER DISEASE NOT ON FORM (Specify): _____

20. PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSES: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

- ★ ☐ 0 Iron Chlorosis on Calcareous Soil
- ☐ Other (Specify) _____

21. INSECT REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

- ☐ 0 Mexican Bean Beetle (*Epilachna varivestis*)
- ☐ 0 Potato Leaf Hopper (*Empoasca fabae*)
- ☐ Other (Specify) _____

22. INDICATE WHICH VARIETY MOST CLOSELY RESEMBLES THAT SUBMITTED.

CHARACTER	NAME OF VARIETY	CHARACTER	NAME OF VARIETY
Plant Shape	Hutcheson	Seed Coat Luster	FFR 563
Leaf Shape	FFR 561	Seed Size	A5403
Leaf Color	FFR 646	Seed Shape	FFR 595
Leaf Size	FFR 561	Seedling Pigmentation	H6686

23. GIVE DATA FOR SUBMITTED AND SIMILAR STANDARD VARIETY: Paired Comparison Data

VARIETY	NO. OF DAYS MATURITY	PLANT LODGING SCORE	CM PLANT HEIGHT	LEAFLET SIZE		SEED CONTENT		SEED SIZE G/100 SEEDS	NO. SEEDS/POD
				CM Width	CM Length	% Protein	% Oil		
Submitted	131	1.5	77	12.3	7.2	40.8	19.5	14.1	
FFR 561 Name of Similar Variety	134	1.8	88	12.7	7.5	40.4	20.1	13.2	

PUBLICATIONS USEFUL AS REFERENCE AIDS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM:

1. Caldwell, B.E., ed. 1973. Soybeans: Improvement, Production, and Uses. Amer. Soc. Agron. Monograph No. 16.
2. Buttery, B.R. and R.I. Buzzell. 1968. Peroxidase activity in seeds of soybean varieties. Crop Sci., 8: 722-725.
3. Hymowitz, T. 1973. Electrophoretic analysis of SBTi-A₂ in the USDA soybean germplasm collection. Crop Sci., 13: 420-421.
4. Payne, R.C. and L.F. Morris. 1976. Differentiation of soybean cultivars by seedling pigmentation patterns. J. Seed Technol. 1: 1-19.

Exhibit D. Additional Description of the Variety

"FFR 553" is a determinate, mid-maturity group V soybean variety. It has purple flowers, brown pubescence, tan pods, yellow seed coats, and black hilum. It is susceptible to the Soybean Cyst Nematode (Heterodera glycines) races 3, 14, and 5, and Phytophthora Root Rot (Phytophthora megasperma var. sojae) race 4. It is resistant to Stem Canker (Diaporthe phaseolorum var. caulivora), Phytophthora Root Rot races 2 and 7, and has demonstrated field tolerance to Frogeye Leaf Spot (Cercospora sojina).

Exhibit E. Statement of the Basis of Applicant's Ownership.

"FFR 553" was bred and developed by a number of plant breeders employed by FFR Cooperative. FFR Cooperative is the sole owner of this soybean variety.